SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

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CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

editorial

The best course of action for the US

AT the end of Thieu's visit to the US, a communiqué was released which contained nothing new apart from what had been foreseen and commented on by public opinion.

First, a lot of rhetorical lip service regarding the Paris Agreement like : "the determination" of the United States and Saigon administration "to implement" the provisions of the Paris Agreement "scrupulously"..., "resolved... to achieve a settlement which will fully insure the right to self-determination by the South Vietnamese people," "earnest desire for a reconciliation among the South Vietnamese parties..." Unfortunately what has been happening proves that such pious professions are only a fig leaf for actual US and Saigon deeds which have triggered strong criticisms. The very Thieu trip was not consonant with the spirit and letter of the niceties in the declaration.

IT is clear that after quiet US pull-out of its combat troops from South Viet Nam, Mr Nixon wanted the Saigon dictator to come and sell his "Vietnamization" success, to express his "deep gratitude" to the US soldiery, to secure "official US support" and to discuss measures to prolong his survival. On his part, Thieu was after more political assets, more money and pledge for US backing when in a scrap.

All this was transparent in Nixon-Thieu mutual commitments. The communiqué also reiterated what the former had said, i.e. his grave concern over "the fairly considerable infiltration of men and materials from North Viet Nam into South Viet Nam." This state of things prompted the two men to say that any action threatening the base of the cease-fire would call for "vigorous reaction," about which Secretary of Defence Richardson was more specific with his threat to "bomb North Viet Nam again and bring back the GI's to South Viet Nam." According to the joint communiqué, the US also required the Thieu regime to assume "on the full manpower requirements for its own defense" and assured it of "the material means for its defence."

Economically, the US promised to it "adequate and substantial economic assistance during the remainder of this year." Thieu was told to "attract foreign investments" and others nations were called on to provide "aid" to him.

THIS is indeed the "needle in the bag." The Nixon-Thieu statement leaves no doubt about US reluctancy to end its involvement in South Viet Nam and its intention to continue the Saigon fascist dictatorship in office, as its instrument for maintaining neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam. All this is at utter variance with their undertaking to abide by the cease-fire. Their mutual arrangements ran counter to the spirit of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and the Act of the International Conference on Viet Nam, to the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination. They threw a strong light on the US-Saigon violations of the accord in the last two months.

The withdrawal of US combat troops is no sufficient indication of US intention to end its involvement in Viet Nam. A host of facts point to the contrary : keeping of several ten thousand military advisors in "civilian" guise, illegal introduction of armaments into South Viet Nam, instigating the Saigon regime to maintain a tense situation there, continued US reconnaissance flights in the DRVN airspace, escalation of the US air war in Cambodia, kept-up bombing and strafing of the territories under the Lao Patriotic Front control. To what extent will the tension be aggravated as a result of the Nixon-Thieu communiqué ?

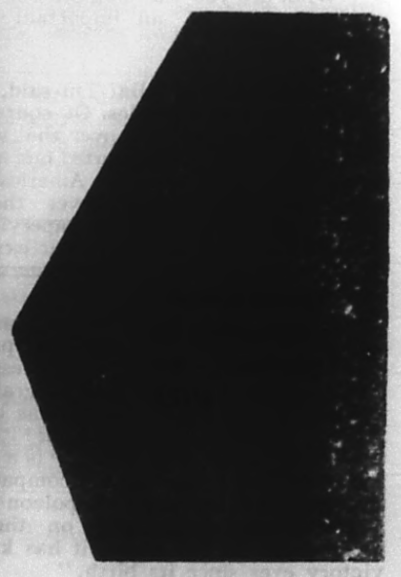
No doubt, the US cannot bring itself to giving up its role as an international gendarme in this area. One wonders who gives the US President the right to have "vigorous reaction" to "violations" of the Paris Agreement while the very side guilty of deliberate breaches is not the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the DRVN, but the Saigon rule and the US themselves, who not long ago showed such blatant bad faith and resorted to dilatory tactics when it came to sign the accord reached in October 1972.

OUR side has every reason and every advantage to adhere to the provisions of the Paris Agreement because they embody our political, military and diplomatic success and ensure the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination.

As one man's meat is another man's poison, it is understandable and inevitable that the US and Saigon, still chafing at their setback, do not want to strictly implement the cease-fire. The Nixon-Thieu communiqué shows that the bitter lesson of recent history has not sunk into their minds. The failure of 18 years and 8 months of involvement, with more than half a million troops, over 10 million tons of hardware and more than 200 billion dollars' expenditure to impose a neo-colonialist domination on South Viet Nam, will certainly recur in a more humiliating form at the present juncture, which is a far cry from the time of the US aggression. One thing must be made perfectly plain to the US and the Saigon regime : the South Vietnamese people will never tolerate a neo-colonialist rule under any form.

THE best course of action for the US, we think, is to honour its Paris pledges, put a final stop to its involvement in Viet Nam, Indochina and Southeast Asia, in order to end present US predicament.

SOUTH VIET NAM



A Historic Day

Press conference at Tan Son Nhut air-base

Two events were taking place at the same time. At one end of the runway, American troops were boarding the planes which were to take them home. Officers from the Joint Military Commission (JMC) standing at the doors of the planes were counting them one by one. The JMC was a four-party set-up, but Saigon officers only put in a brief appearance at the conference room before sneaking away. American officers looked rather embarrassed and spoke in a mechanical way. From time to time they would answer questions put by officers of the PRG or the DRVN.

At the other end of the runway, another event was about to unfold. The setting: four flags (two American and two Saigon), armoured cars with their machineguns at the ready, and armed helicopters hovering in the sky. A brass band was playing. An officer of the Saigon military police, in answer to my question, said, "Our government is welcoming home our President, back from the USA."

Precisely at that moment, a crowd of foreigners started leaving that place and rushing towards us. There were both men and women, and all were toting still and movie cameras and tape-recorders. They were the press correspondents. First to reach us was a reporter of the American NBC television network. When he was about ten yards away, he started thrusting his mike in our direction. "Good morning," I said, "I see they quite willingly let you meet us today." Panting, he answered, "Not at all. They took us there." He pointed at the flags and the brass band. "But Weyand and Cao Van Vien kept toasting and embracing each other. So we soon got fed up, and here we are."

In the twinkling of an eye, we were surrounded by pressmen, who handed us their cards and thrust their mikes at us. Lieutenant-colonel Bui Tin looked around and said aloud in French, "Good morning, friends! We are truly under siege. But it's a friendly siege!"

There was a roar of laughter. In the name of our two delegations to the JMC, Bui Tin answered the correspondents' questions. He was in good humour and his voice rang loud and clear. One pressman asked: "Colonel, what do you think of the fact that the last American soldier is leaving..."

"It's a great victory for our people," Bui Tin said. He repeated this once again, then added, "For the first time in more than a century, our land is in principle clear of all foreign aggressors."

"What are you thinking of, Colonel?" asked the correspondent of an important American newspaper.

"I am thinking," Bui Tin said, "of my country, my people, my comrades. Of course I also think of men of conscience all over the world who have in one way or another supported our noble cause. When the half-a-million-strong American expeditionary corps came here, they never thought they would have to leave it under our supervision. But history has unfolded contrary to their expectations. Thank you all for coming to share our great joy today."

The press conference lasted 40 minutes. As Lieutenant-Colonel Bui Tin left the pressmen to carry out his supervisory duty, a correspondent ran after him. "Colonel," he asked, grabbing his sleeve, "General Vo Nguyen Giap has been compared to Napoleon. What do you think?" Bui Tin stopped. "General Giap," he said, "is a very modest man and would not like such a comparison. But here is my personal opinion: Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo and died in exile on the island of Sainte-Hélène. As for our army, it has known nothing but victory ever since its birth."

Nguyen Ai Quoc! Nguyen Ai Quoc!

Departing American troops were taking home all kinds of souvenirs. But Corporal Oliver, a black man from Virginia, had with him only a wooden sword, which he gravely carried breast-high. When he saw us, he pointed to the handle of his sword. It bore an inscription in English: "Short" On the blade was another inscription written with purple paint: "*Tay Ninh, under rocket fire*—1969." He explained: "All Americans brought to Viet Nam had only one wish: to see this tragic war come to an end. The shorter their stay in this country, the better." He pointed his finger at the word "Short".

"Who made this sword?" I asked.

"I don't know," Oliver answered. "Someone made it. He didn't get what he longed for. He died before he could return home. The sword passed into the hands of someone else, then to successive other men. I was the last man to get it. I am the happiest of the lot, for here I am leaving after only five and a half months, still alive."

Going home with Oliver was another American named Jim Gorden, 44, from Pensylvania. As Bui Tin passed by, Gorden stopped him. "Colonel, you know Nguyen Ai Quoc, don't you?"

"How did you get to know Nguyen Ai Quoc's name?" Bui Tin asked.

"I read a lot, I know quite a few things," Gorden stammered in halting Vietnamese.

Bui Tin took a badge bearing President Ho Chi Minh's effigy he was wearing and handed it to the American. Gorden hastily put down his bag, wiped his hands on his jacket and respectfully took the badge. "Oh! Nguyen Ai Quoc. Nguyen Ai Quoc. Thank you so much. Thank you."

He looked at the badge for a long moment then said in a moved voice: "Nguyen Ai Quoc symbolizes peace in the world." Again he spoke in Vietnamese: "Nguyen Ai Quoc fought so that Viet Nam be neither a French, Japanese, nor American possession. He fought so that Viet Nam remain Vietnamese. When I heard of his death, I wept a great deal. I couldn't work for two days. I just wept. Vietnamese people working at the American base in Ba Ngoi (Cam Ranh) also absented themselves from work. They too wept bitterly."

Shaking hands with us before boarding the plane, Gorden repeated: "Nguyen Ai Quoc, Nguyen Ai Quoc."

The last American

At 16:00 hours on March 29, 1973, the last batch of American troops was about to leave Tan Son Nhut. The last plane was a DC. 9 bearing the number MAC 40619. Its fuselage carried a design symbolizing the awesome power of the USAF: a blue shield, a flight of three attacking planes, a blossoming parachute and a silver constellation. The plane was taking American troops out of a war in which defeat had been the lot of men with tremendous physical power.

Three Japanese buses loaded with American GIs stopped 50 yards from the planes, two Lieutenant-colonels handed a list to Major Doan Van Dien of the RSVN PRG.

"Major," they said, "this last batch comprises 59 American military personnel."

Major Dien and Lieutenant-colonel Bui Tin examined the list. Major Dien asked the American officers: "To what unit do these men belong?"

"They belong to MACV headquarters and comprise officers and non-coms of the American army, navy and air force."

"Give us the names of the highest-ranking officers in this batch," Bui Tin said.

"There are three colonels", said a Lieutenant-colonel.

"Taking into account this batch, we find that you are 255 men short of the plan communicated by the American side. Please take note and inform the delegation heads of this. Now, tell your men to emplane."

The American GIs alighted from the buses and filed past, heading for the planes. Hundreds of cameras were directed at them: they were the last men of the American expeditionary force to leave Viet Nam.

The last to emplane was a corporal. An officer of the DRVN gave him a small bamboo curtain with a drawing of the One-Pillar-Pagoda in Hanoi, an album of photographs on the life and activities of President Ho Chi Minh, and a handshake. A Western correspondent watched in surprise. "Sir," he told me, "I don't understand. As far as I know, the Americans have committed aggression..."

"Yes," I replied, "they have. And now, after ten-odd years of setbacks they are forced to withdraw. However, generosity and leniency is part of our national tradition. In the past, when foreign armies had to withdraw from our country after being defeated by our forefathers, the latter provided them with horses, boats, food and clothing. President Ho Chi Minh once said: 'We are ready to unroll a red carpet for the American aggressors to withdraw from our country.'"

GI's withdrawing from Da Nang under RSVN PRG officers' supervision

"Oh, this is quite a discovery about Viet Nam. You are a great nation. They truly deserve to be defeated."

The correspondent said it in a voice so loud everybody turned to look. At that moment, the American colonel D. Odell turned up, followed by Nguu, a high-ranking officer of the Saigon police, who often prowled about the place. The two embraced. I saw Saigon officers turn away.

Odell emplaned. So he was in fact the last American militaryman to leave Tan Son Nhut, to leave Vietnamese soil. The door snapped shut. It was 16 : 25 hours, Hanoi time.

At the Da Nang airbase

For the last eight years, the Da Nang airbase has been teeming with tens of thousands of American airmen and technicians, and crowded with thousands of bombers and fighter-planes of the First American Air Division. Night and day, they took off from this airfield to attack targets in both the North and the South of our country. By March 29, 1973, sixty days after the Paris Agreement recorded the immense victory of our people and armed forces, the Da Nang air base had become almost deserted. It seemed shrouded in a pall. All American flags and bunting had been taken down. Barracks, command posts, revetments for the aircraft, concrete pillboxes, etc. stood glumly amidst the carcasses of planes destroyed during sapper attacks by the liberation forces.

On March 29, at noon, there was a sudden upsurge of activity when UH-21 helicopters brought in JMC and International Commission teams who were to supervise the withdrawal of the last batch of American troops. Mount Son Tra, Mount Phuoc Tuong, the Hai Van Pass and Mount Ngu Hanh, which tower over the base, looked like solemn witnesses. Eight years ago, in March 1965, the first American troops landed here in truculent waves. Now the last ones were packing up after suffering bitter setbacks. The operation was to last all afternoon. Eight flights were to take them out of Viet Nam. Two CD.8 airliners would take part of them directly home to America, while four C.130 military transport planes would carry the rest to Thailand.

In an empty barrack and on the tarmac to the right, the 377 men who were flying to the United States were waiting. The 184 men who were to go to Thailand were in another barrack to the left. The men bound for the United States belonged for the most part to the air force. Dressed in light yellow, they were sitting around piles of bags and packs. The ones going to Thailand were also airmen for the most part, but there were also members of other services : marines, rangers. paratroopers, sappers, etc. They were in camouflage battle dress. Obviously, dark schemes were still afoot against Viet Nam and the other Indochinese countries.

The first flight was a Boeing airliner bearing the number N8960T and an American flag at the tail end. It took away 219 American military personnel under the supervision of the JMC and International Commission teams. In the five hours that followed, five other flights took the rest away.

Major Ho Cau, of the PRG delegation, had a talk with the last man on the list of American military personnel leaving Viet Nam from Da Nang. He was quite a veteran, having been here a number of years. On his arrival, he had probably been still quite young and intoxicated by the legend of "invincibility" of his army — an imperialist army which had ruled the roost the world over. Today, his hair was greying and he looked exhausted. On his lapel was pinned a silver spread eagle, a special badge, reserved for American colonels. On his shoulder was another badge, saying "Ranger". The whole thing meant that he had trained and commanded the infamous troops specialized in jungle fighting in the 2nd Corps Area. His name was Walker. When Major Ho Cau shook hands with him and bade him and his men farewell, his grey eyes brightened. The victor's courtesy visibly surprised him. He said : "I am quite moved. Thank you. Viet Nam is a beautiful country. The Vietnamese are a great people."

The last plane was about to take off. It was a C.130, a modern military transport plane. It was carrying away men who had used the most modern war techniques against the Vietnamese people. But today, March 29, 1973, as they mounted the stairs to emplane, they must still feel a chill running down their spines, as they thought of the pointed bamboo stakes standing at the bottom of the pitfalls dotting the soil of Viet Nam, and of the miraculous strength evinced by the Vietnamese people.

N.S. and V.H.

Mass demonstration in the liberated zone to demand the Saigon administration to seriously implement the Paris Agreement

The fate of the traitors

AS a rule, hunters make use of dogs, bird trappers of decoys. Similarly, in their wars of conquest, the imperialists usually resort to traitors apart from an expeditionary corps. As far as our country is concerned, each time we defeat the invaders, their native agents' fate is also sealed.

From time out of time, their lot has been identical. In the past, there were the Tran Ich Tac and Le Chieu Thong cliques whose crimes were the same and whose eventually ends were not different. Many hundred thousand Mongol and Ch'ing troops were swept away and in their wake, the traitors fled and their bleached bones were left to decay in alien lands.

In our times, in our people's resistance against the French colonialists and US imperialists, the same thing recurred. First Nguyen Van Thinh founded the so-called Nam Ky state, which went to the dogs when its father, a doctor by trade, terminated his own life with a dose of poison. After the French colonialists had gone, their strawmen, including an emperor, had also to pack up. They were replaced by another group who hired themselves to new masters, the US imperialists. Ngo Dinh Diem who changed bosses three time was an arch-traitor who experienced a similar doom to that of his predecessors of ignominious fame. The last of the series, and there is every indication that he will be so, Nguyen Van Thieu was born into a family of fishmongers in Phan Rang. When the August Revolution erupted, he had just come of age. Carried by the trend, he got a job at a local administrative organ. When the French returned, he became of their mercenaries. He rose from the ranks at the time of Dien Bien Phu. He did not go with his protectors but stayed behind to enter into the service of the Americans, as an aide of the Ngo brothers. After the latter's downfall, he associated himself with newly-emergent forces. When the aggressors had found in him a "qualified" servant for their neocolonialist purposes, he was put in the saddle, while his rivals were eliminated. He was about to ascend to the throne, in his yellow turban and brocade tunic, when our earth-shaking wave of offensives broke out and the US invaders had to bid farewell.

As soon as the last GI had boarded homebound plane, Thieu also set off on a trip to the metropolis to ask for help. He declared that the latter would start the bombing again without waiting for Saigon *S.O.S.* His statement was reminiscent of Diem's assertion that the US boun aries extended to the 17th parallel. The only difference is that the US has been bound by the Paris Agreement to respect our country's independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity and to put a final stop to its military involvement, abstain from intervening in our internal affairs, withdraw all its troops and military personnel from South Viet Nam. Will the tragedy which split the American nation asunder and upset her global strategy be re-acted ?

Thieu's visit to the US had no other aim than prolong US involvement and intervention in our own business. The US ruling circles will have to pay dear for their foolish stubbornness.

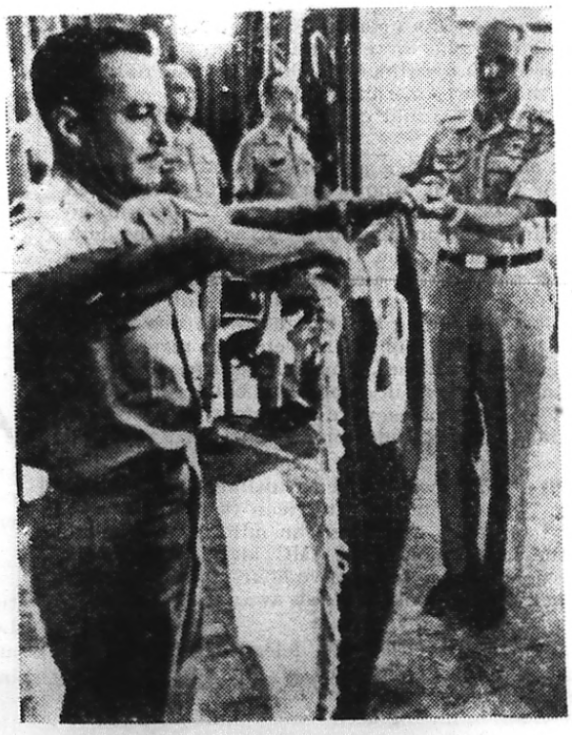
We are resolved to have all the provisions of the Paris Agreement full implemented and the internal affairs of South Viet Nam settled in the spirit of national reconciliation and concord. Whoever sets his face against such a resolve, whether the US or Thieu, is doomed to failure.

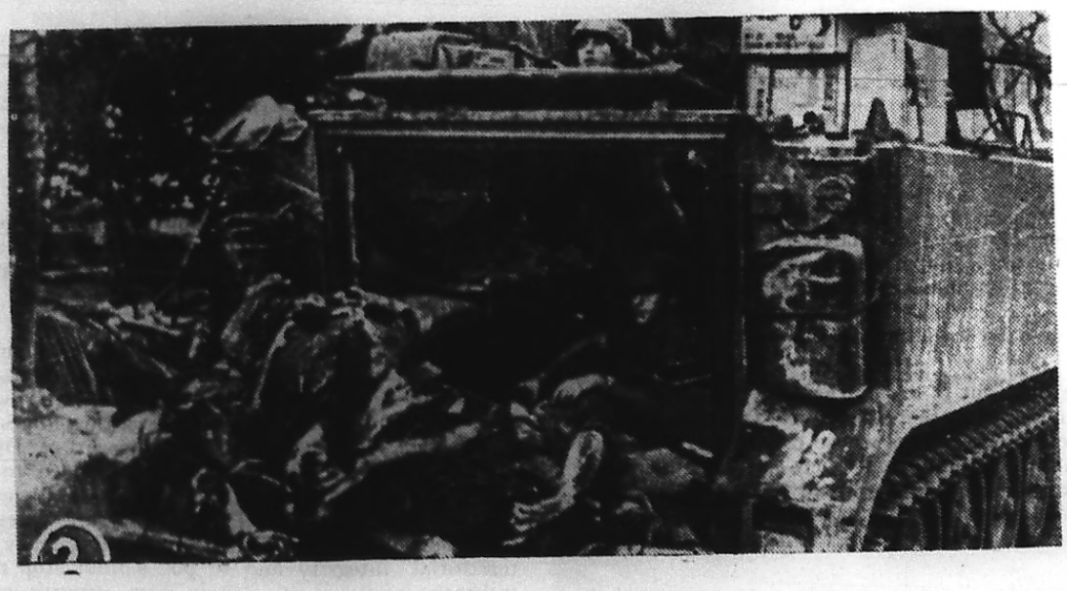
Let what happened to those who preceded the Saigon dictator on the path of treason to the nation be a warning to him. The Motherland is a loving mother who always forgives her prodigal sons.

Editorial of the Nhan Dan
(April 3, 1973*)*

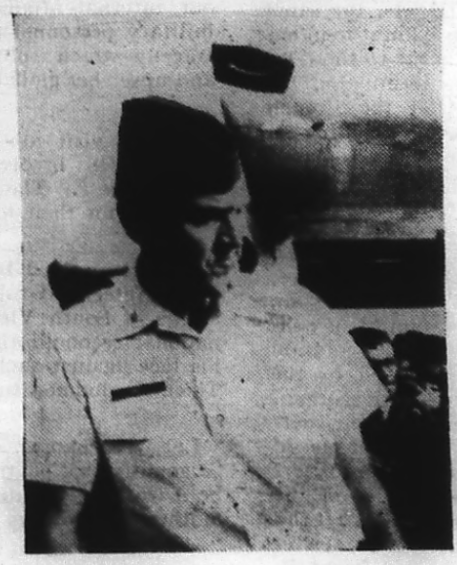
Different stages of a war without glory

- *March 1965 — The US expeditionary corps landed in Da Nang in truculent waves to back the routed Saigon army*
- *Even US tanks were of no help*
- *Every day, due punishment was inflicted on GI's*





- *March 15, 1973 — Dismal flag-folding ceremony at the headquarters of US ground forces*
- *At 16.45hrs on March 29, 1973, Colonel Odell, the last American to leave Viet Nam, ruefully emplaned*
- *DRVN and PRG officers supervising the withdrawal of US troops at Tan Son Nhut airport*



Facts and figures on US Viet Nam aggression

IN the 200 years of its history, the United States has participated in, or unilaterally conducted, many wars.

In the war of independence against British colonialism, which lasted 7 years and 7 months (April 1775 — Nov. 1782) it lost 4,435 killed and 6,118 wounded. Expenditures amounted to 75 million dollars.

The war of aggression against Mexico, which lasted one year and 9 months (May 1846 — Feb. 1848), cost it 1,733 killed and 4,152 wounded, and 166 million dollars.

The 4-year Civil War (April 1861 - April 1865) caused the death of 234,000 men and the disability of 382,000 others. Spendings ran to 4 billion dollars.

385 killed, 1,662 injured, and 576 million dollars spent were the price of the four months long American-Spanish War (April 1898 — June 1898).

The United States participated in the First World War for one year and 7 months (April 1917 — Nov. 1918). 53,402 of its men were killed, and 204,002 others wounded. War spendings totalled 25.7 billion dollars.

In the more than 30 years past, the US got involved in three major wars — the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Viet Nam War.

The following figures related to these three wars are supplied by American sources *(see Table above)*.

What conclusions can be drawn from these statistics ?

As far as duration is concerned, the Viet Nam war was 3.7 times longer than the Korean War. It was 3 times longer than US participation in World War II, and 2.7 times as long as the American Civil War. It was, therefore, the longest war in the entire history of the United States.

During the Viet Nam War, the US deployed, on an area of some 170,000 square kilometres with a population of 14 million, a force that equalled all the ground forces of the United Kingdom, Belgium, Austria, Canada and Spain put together, or an average of 3 American troops per square kilometre, with the exclusion of puppet and satellite troops. The density was twice that of the Korean War (327,000 troops for 240,000 square kilometres), and is the biggest of all the wars in history.

It is also universally known that for the Viet Nam War, the United States mobilized a total of 6 million servicemen, 5.5 million industrial workers, 40 per cent of the physicists, 200 universities and colleges, and 22,000 major industrial enterprises.

The forces the United States fielded in World War II, indeed, was also impressive. But it had then to deal with hundreds of divisions of German and Japanese troops. During the Korean War, close to 330,000 American troops were committed to battle. In Viet Nam, with the inclusion of support forces on the 7th Fleet and in Thailand, the Philippines and Japan, over 800,000 troops of the US were directly or indirectly involved in the war (figures from a Congressional paper, May 1970) against the revolutionary army of a small country. In the Korean War, the peak of draft (327,000 men) was reached in the last year (1953). In Viet Nam, US troops has numbered as many as 328,000 by Oct. 8, 1966. In the first major operation during the first dry-season offensive late in 1965, the United States deployed up to 180,000 men.

The Viet Nam War, as such, will be remembered as the biggest local war of aggression to date.

And its fierceness is amply illustrated by the tonnage of explosive used. Besides some 6 million tons of artillery ammunition, the US dumped, mainly on the Vietnamese battlefield, a quantity of bombs 12.3 times bigger than that used in the Korean War, and 4 times as many as that dropped on all the battlefields in World War II. It is 15.5 times bigger than the tonnage of bombs exploded by the US in the Pacific area including Alaska, China, Burma and India, or 6 times bigger than the 1.35 million tons used against Germany, or still 49 times bigger than the 160,000 tons dropped on Japan during World War II, which crippled 65 per cent of that country's industry. During the 12-day blitz in December 1972 alone, over 40,000 tons of bombs—the equivalent of one-fourth of the tonnage used in Japan, or 2 Hiroshima-type atomic bombs—were unloaded on Hanoi alone.

Just how atrocious the war was can also be measured in other terms. On this land, the war waged by the United States assumed the character of a genocide, biocide and ecocide.

	World War II	Korean War	Viet Nam War
Duration	3 years and 8 months (Dec. 1941—Aug. 1945)	3 years (June 1950 — June 1953)	11 years and one month (Dec. 1961 — Jan. 1973)
Maxima troops deployed		327,000 (June 30, 1953)	543,482 (April 1969)
Explosive tonnage	2,056,244 tons	635,000 tons	7,855,800 tons (Feb. 1965—Sept. 30, 1972)
Casualties	962,405	136,913	559,684
Spendings	341 billion	20 billion	240 billion

In addition to steel-pellet bombs (a kind specifically designed anti-personnel weapon, whose use was universally condemned) the US employed growing quantities of napalm. The following figures are disclosed following an American investigation into the use of this lethal substance in Viet Nam :

1963 : 2,181 tons
1964 : 1,779 tons
1965 : 17,659 tons
1966 : 54,620 tons
Jan. 1969 — June 1971 : 125,000 tons

Or a total of 201,239 tons in 9 years.

The US also conducted, for the first time in history, a large-scale chemical warfare, which has had many immediate disastrous effects, and will threaten man's environments for many years to come. According to a study by Cornell University, around 2,100 square kilometres, or 35 per cent of the jungles of South Viet Nam, were heavily devastated by US chemicals, including agent Picloram, which not only can destroy vegetation, but also prevent the regeneration of many varieties of plants.

What's more, the war was not a brief one. It dragged out for years, and in a more and more violent manner.

Taking all this into consideration, one can say that the US war in Viet Nam cannot be matched in fierceness by any previous wars in history.

It was also the most modern war. Almost all the latest achievements in military science and technology, short of nuclear weapons, were brought to use. Aviation, one of the most important ones, has been tremendously developped by many countries in the world since its coming into being in World War I. The US air war in Viet Nam is the biggest of its kind so far, and expenditures for it accounted for 25 per cent of all war spendings.

The following figures can give a more complete idea of the use of US air forces in the Viet Nam War *(see Table below)*.

The helicopter is another technological achievement increasingly commissioned in the last fifteen years. Yet, in none of the previous wars was it so extensively resorted to. In Viet Nam at one time, the US employed as many as 4,000 of them, and even set up a division (the 1st Airborne) with helicopters as the principal means of transport and combat. As Gen. W. Westmoreland put it, helicopters did duty for one million troops the US and Saigon would have had to muster.

Also in this war, hundreds of B.52 stratoforts were used for strategic purposes. An aircraft of this kind can carry a bomb load 10 times that of an ordinary fighter-bomber, and its striking force has been boasted by the US Command as equal to that of two infantry divisions.

There were also a series of other modern armaments, such as the LASER-guided bomb, the TV bomb, the "Tropical plant", the unmanned plane, and other most important accomplishments of man in electronics and cybernetics in the last two decades.

All the weapons and war means put to use by the US in Viet Nam, from the M-16 automatic rifle of the infantry, the long-range gun baptized "King of the Battlefield", the M-48 tanks, to the Variable Geometry fighter-bomber and nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, were modernized to a very great extent.

This notwithstanding, the Viet Nam war was the most costly one in the history of the United States.

Statistics, even though greatly watered down, showed that the Viet Nam War was one of the four wars which took the most heavy toll of American troops. US casualties in Viet Nam were 4 times greater than in Korea. In terms of money, the Viet Nam War was 12 times more costly than the Korean War, and was second only to World War II.

We, however, have not come to US heaviest loss yet.

After 11-years' exertions in Viet Nam, the US finally had to sign the Paris Agreement, undertaking to respect the fundamental rights of the Vietnamese people and the rights of the South Vietnamese people to self-determination, to terminate its military involvement, and withdraw all American and satellite troops from this country. This, indeed, was the most serious setback of US imperialism.

And very disastrous consequences of this war are beginning to tell on it: its troops back from the field, weary and drug addicted, are demoralized; its global strategy is upset, its international image tarnished; the dollar, in the throes of an unending crisis, has lost its supremacy in the world money exchanges; and a "moral civil war" is raging at home, which has been the most terrible price the US has had to pay in a war.

It was publicly acknowledged by three defence secretaries in succession. President John F. Kennedy described Viet Nam as a "tunnel with no end in sight" and President Lyndon B. Johnson admitted that the US could not make the situation change according to its wish.

President Richard Nixon himself has remarked that the Viet Nam war was the most tragic war of the United States.

This amounts to owning that Viet Nam is the biggest failure ever sustained by US imperialism.

	Number of aircraft used	Kinds	Price	Number of sorties
Pacific area in World War II	593 (1941)	Propeller-driven	220,000 dollars (B-17)	669,235
Korean War	1,500	With exception of F.48 and F.86, the rest were propeller-driven planes	320,000 dollars	425,000
Viet Nam War	5,300 (not including 2,000 others supplied to Saigon army)	Mostly jet aircraft, of 60 different types	15 million dollars (F-111)	1,651,122

The 3rd company of the DRVN Air Forces, a hero-unit

HAIL
Viet Nam people's heroic anti-aircraft and air forces

IN the exulting atmosphere in both zones of our country, we enthusiastically greet the 20th founding anniversary of the anti-aircraft force which victoriously defended the airspace of our beloved Fatherland and the 8th anniversary of its first success, which is also a pride of our entire people.

In the great anti-US fight for national salvation, the fighters of the anti-aircraft and air forces acted as the hard-core of the people's resistance to the US air war. They achieved splendid feats of arms which made an important contribution to the entire people's victory over the US navy and air force.

Born 20 years ago, in the last stage of the resistance war against the French colonialists, the Vietnamese anti-aircraft force ceaselessly gained in strength and success and contributed to the historic victory of the "Dien Bien Phu" battle.

In the anti-US fight for national salvation, the fighters of the Viet Nam AA force making the most of their fire power at various altitudes and of all calibres, closely coordinated their actions with other friendly units, recorded extraordinary exploits by shooting down over 1,500 US aircraft of 46 types and 16 kinds, including 400 on the spot.

Not long after its formation, the Viet Nam Air Force scored its first kill on April 3, 1965. Holding firm the initiative, promoting resolutely the offensive and opposing small forces to much bigger ones, its fighters shot down many aircraft including US strategic bombers, thereby making possible friendly units' achievements.

In the last days of 1972, the Vietnamese anti-aircraft and air forces reached new records, made an important contribution to foiling the strategic attacks by B.52 stratoforts. Their deeds marked the extraordinary progress of the Vietnamese Anti-Aircraft and Air Forces' combat, organization, coordination of various arms and services, technical and tactical standards as well as modern science and technology and elaboration of highly devastating fighting methods.

Glory to the fighters of the Vietnamese Anti-Aircraft and Air Forces who courageously fought to defend the airspace and waters of beloved North Viet Nam, thereby giving effective help to the South Vietnamese people and armed forces to foil the US imperialists and their agents' "Vietnamization."

Warm congratulations to the heroic Viet Nam People's Anti-Aircraft and Air Forces, the iron-like forces which upheld revolutionary heroism, and deserved to be the mainstays of the anti-US fight for national salvation.

Warm congratulations to the officers and men of the Viet Nam People's Anti-Aircraft and Air Forces who in face of the enemy's bombs and rockets never ceased showing their traditional "complete devotion to the country, to the people."

Looking towards beloved North Viet Nam, the South Vietnamese people are very proud of the splendid and marvellous exploits of the Viet Nam People's Anti-Aircraft and Air Forces. Learning from them, the South Viet Nam liberation armed forces will always keep vigilant, improve their fighting technique, stand ready to frustrate all the enemy's schemes to carry on the war and sabotage the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam.

the DRVN in brief

Civilian air traffic reopened

Civilian air traffic has been reopened after completion of the repair of war-damaged material and technical facilities. So far Hanoi—Vinh—Dong Hoi and Hanoi—Nasan air lines have begun functioning. The Nasan—Dien Bien Phu and other new routes between the capital city and other localities in the North, the Northeast and further to neighbouring countries are under repair or construction.

Free medicare for 120,000 people

Like in the rest of the country, people at the grass-roots, especially ethnical minorities, are beneficiaries of medicare in Lai Chau province. In 1972, it was supplied free of charge to no less than 120,000 people. A medical network covering even the remotest hamlets has been set up. 104 hamlets have been immune to epidemics of all kinds for the last five years.

17 deposits of minerals spotted

The mine-prospecting team of Nghe An province after days and nights of surveying has spotted 17 deposits of valuable mineral ores, which opens bright mining prospects in the birth place of President Ho Chi Minh.

Cam Ly dam restored

The Quang Binh people, showing the same uncommon courage in the rehabilitation of war-damaged water-conservancy structures, as previously in the fighting, have repaired the totality of canals which bring water from the Cam Ly and Da Mai dams to more than 40,000 hectares of ricefields.

Training of technicians and skilled workers in the building trade

The number of workers to be trained by the building trade in 1973 will be three times as many as in 1972 (the figure was 7,000). The training encompasses 44 specialities. Thousands of architects, engineers and middle-level technicians are also being schooled in Building Colleges and High Schools of the Building Ministry, whose number has been constantly on the rise.

Superphosphate factory overfulfills production norm

The production plan for the first quarter of 1973 has been overfulfilled by many labour units and workshops of the superphosphate factory. It has been exceeded by 5 per cent by the phosphate workshop which, in some days, turned out an extra 25-50 tons of fertilizers.

New machines developed by natural silk factory.

The silk factory in Thanh Hoa province has repaired all its old machines and produced and commissioned 30 new ones at the start of the "cocooning season". The workers in the engineering section have moreover restored a generator which will provide electricity for all the three shifts. 100 workers specialized in cocooning and spindling have been trained.

A new copper mine discovered

Vietnamese geologists have discovered a new copper deposit in S area. After studying the geological composition of the place, they found out the law governing the distribution of its ores and consequently enlarged their prospection which is by now completed. The team was awarded a second-class Labour Medal by the DRVN Government. The place will cater for the metallurgical industry of North Viet Nam.

Mechanization of mother-of-pearl inlaying.

Mother-of-pearl inlaying in Chuong My, Ha Tay province, is a handicraft which has acquired widespread fame for centuries. Thousands of mother-of-pearl shells of suitable shapes and colours are elaborately worked on with hand saws, knife-files, etc. then assembled into attractive pictures. Coupled with lacquer, mother-of-pearl inlaying at Chuong My is being step by step mechanized in a gradual shift over to big-scale production.

Cocoa-nuts used in cancer treatment

Active elements extracted from a kind of cocoa-nut called "dua can" can cure high blood pressure and cancer—as has been observed by many people for more than a decade. The Pharmaceutical Factory and the Institute of Pharmaceutical Researches after analyzing this cocoa-nut by using X-rays, have come to the conclusion that the fruit contains an active anti-cancer element.

Here and There ★ Here and There

BELATEDLY CONCOCTED EVIDENCE

TOGETHER with the Nixon-Thieu powwow, a smear campaign was launched by Washington against Viet Nam exactly one day after the return of the last US POW.

Under the White House plan, the freshly released military personnel were to "help press conferences across the country to tell the truth on their detention days". According to first press reports, former POW's like Alvarez, Denton, Persil and others with apparent bad faith and in various manners told tales of "brutalities and tortures" they had been put to by North Viet Nam. Former Secretary of Defence Melvin Laird also chimed in saying that the Pentagon had always known those facts but had abstained from disseminating them.

Despite all the White House and Pentagon's antics, they cannot make white black, obscure the truth and give the lie to the following evidence:

First, David Dellinger, leader of the delegation representing US anti-war mass organizations and entrusted with the reception from our hands on August 1969 of some released pilots declared, after his interview with from 25 to 30 US detainees that, "all had affirmed that they had been humanely treated."

Second, on August 1972, ex-US Attorney General Ramsey Clark told members of the International Committee of Inquiry, after his visit to a prisoners' stockade that their conditions could not be better and that he had been impressed by the sanitary conditions they enjoyed *(AFP)*.

Third, Colonel John Odd, of Hospital Clark stated after examination of the released airmen that they were in good health, that they had been well looked after and fed by their guards. The hospital's doctors showed great respect for the North Vietnamese surgeons who had provided the best of attention to the wounded prisoners (*UPI*, February 2, 1973).

Fourth, one of the pilots set free on July 18, 1968 said after his return to the US that he had been very humanely treated and that the North Vietnamese were very correct (*AFP*, August 3, 1968).

Fifth, Walter Wilber, a flight lieutenant downed and captured in North Viet Nam in June, 1968, said among other things in the CBS television broadcast of April 1, 1973 that during his nearly 5 years of detention, he had not been tortured once, and that his anti-war statements over *Hanoi Radio* were all dictated by his own conscience (*AP*).

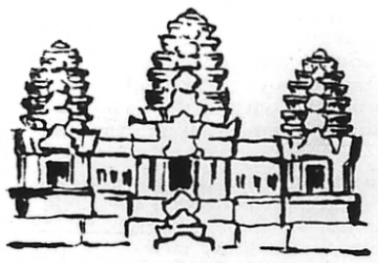
Sixth, the denigraters' own statements, recorded or noted down by foreign correspondents in Hanoi before their release, completely clashed with their declarations in the US. Are they perjurers? Only their conscience can tell. Even if they were, we have no ill feeling against them. They only can answer for their human dignity. Some had informed us beforehand that they would be forced after their return to do or say things they would be told to by their superiors.

Peace be with them! There is no need to go on giving more evidence to the contrary of their "testimonies."

HUONG NAM

Cambodia hit by US air war of extermination

APRIL 5 was the 29th day of a continuous US air bombing drive against Cambodia, said a *UPI* report based on US official sources. According to *AP* of April 3, all B.52's and F.111's available (in Southeast Asia) were hurled into those raids which were "widespread" and "seemed to have surpassed the size of tactical support to ground forces" (i.e. the Phnom Penh army). Again according to the same news agency, the US command in the Pacific admitted that for nearly a month, US B.52's had been ceaselessly active in Cambodia.



Meanwhile, in Washington the ruling circles have issued a series of cynical statements. On March 27, R. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, affirmed that US bombing against Cambodia "would have no time limitation." On March 28, Richardson, the Pentagon boss, bluntly declared that so long as there is no cease-fire in Cambodia, the US continued bombing campaign remains legitimate. Then on April 2, at a press conference, he again asserted that the (US) President had a constitutional right to bomb Cambodia.

Such an insolence is reminiscent of one of the most reckless statements of this imperialist chieftain bent on aggression and arrogating to itself the right to obliterate any weak nation on earth! A strong wave of protest has been triggered also among the US people and Congress who are critical of the Nixon administration's atrocities. A question was asked: Has the United States any right to carry out military activities in Cambodia? And many Congressmen came to this conclusion: The Nixon administration's current actions are contrary to the US Constitution.

Things appear even clearer and simpler in the eyes of progressive mankind. It is beyond doubt that the United States is pursuing an air war of extermination against Cambodia, and that after Viet Nam, Cambodia has now fallen a victim to US genocide.

On the one hand, this is a piece of evidence of the fiasco of "Khmerization." Whether an air or ground war, the US war is directed against the independence - freedom - and peace-loving people of Cambodia, and is totally criminal. On the other hand, coupled with the US-instigated Saigon and Vientiane regimes' serious and systematic sabotage of the Agreements on restoring peace in Viet Nam and Laos, the new US war escalation in Cambodia further shows that the United States is still very reluctant to give up its neo-colonialist designs upon the Indochinese peninsula. By means of this air war, Washington is trying to stave off the traitorous Phnom Penh regime's imminent collapse with a view to prolonging its survival for the achievement of US neo-colonialism in an important section of the peninsula. Moreover, the US war in Cambodia is a grave violation of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and of the Act of the International Conference on Viet Nam whereby the United States has as a signatory pledged to respect the independence, sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity and neutrality of Cambodia.

Will the United States succeed in materializing its dream concerning Cambodia? Everybody knows that this is sheer illusion. The most basic military theory will prove that even the fiercest air war will not be able to win victory for its promoter. This has been borne out by the Viet Nam experience which further more proved that atrocity yielded only one result: the exasperation of the opposite side's hatred. Events in Cambodia have once again testified to this. According to Western sources, the US agents in Phnom Penh are being driven into dire straits in every respect. All supply routes, including Highways 1, 2, 3, 4 and the Mekong river, are cut off. The people and national liberation armed forces, under the leadership of the Cambodian FUNK and Royal Government of National Union, in defiance of US bombs, are launching powerful and repeated assaults in all fronts. It is an established fact that the air war of extermination carried out by the Nixon administration against Cambodia produces no other fruits than new crimes and growing US estrangement from the world as well as dissensions at home.

As a neighbour and close friend of the Cambodian people and fighting shoulder-to-shoulder with them against a common enemy — the US imperialist aggressor — the South Vietnamese people strongly score this

new US war escalation of extreme seriousness against Cambodia and pledge its continued total support to, and solidarity with, the Cambodian people in their legitimate struggle for national liberation. It is our unshakable belief that the day is not far when the brotherly people of Cambodia will bring their sacred cause to final victory.

DAI LIEN

Laos

Cease-fire violations punished

FOR over a month now, the US imperialists and Vientiane extremist reactionaries have been repeatedly violating the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos and been meted out due punishment by the Lao patriotic armed forces, KPL reported.

Violations of the Agreement

As everybody knows, Articles 2 and 3 of the Agreement have clearly stipulated a total and simultaneous cease-fire in-place throughout Laos, prohibited all encroaching attacks on the areas controlled by the other party, all other hostile military acts including activities of bandits and commandos and actions on the ground and in the air, all terrorist raids and operations, repression and damage to the people's lives and property, etc. But since 12 hours, February 22, though the Lao Patriotic Front's side has been strictly implementing all the provisions signed, not a day has passed without breaches of them by the US-Vientiane side. In the past 31 days (from February 22 to March 24) the latter's armed forces have committed nearly 3,000 violations, i.e. an average of 100 a day. On Feb. 23, these reached a record number: 214. Of the said 3,000 cases, over 2,600 were air strikes or reconnaissance flights, causing no less damage to the civilians than before the signing of the Agreement. Most serious were the US B.52 and F.4 bombings of Paksong, Saravane, Plain of Jars and Xieng Khoang. On the ground, the US and Vientiane side hurled troops from company to battalion size into incursions into the patriotic forces' liberated areas. Typical of this was the March 23 assault of 10 battalions supported by T28, F4 and AD6 planes, tanks and artillery on Ban Toong and Hat Keo belonging to the liberated area of Thakhet province. Meanwhile, hundreds of bandits, spies and commandos were smuggled into the Lao patriotic forces' liberated areas to harass and sabotage economic and cultural establishments, disseminate biased propaganda on the Accord and sow discord among different Lao nationalities.

The Thai reactionary authorities, instead of withdrawing more than 30 battalions they had illegally introduced to Laos, joined the US in co-ordinated actions with the Vientiane troops on the liberated areas of Muong Mung, Ban Leng, Ban Chuong (Luong Nam Tha province), Pac Tha (Udomsay province), Phu Pha Xay (Xieng Khoang province), West Paksong, Saravane and Savannakhet.

Oudon Sananikon, Vientiane Chief of Staff, disclosed on March 22 in Vientiane and on March 24 in Luang Prabang a scheme to undermine the peace. "This Agreement" he said, "has been signed by the political parties, and we military are not bound by it, and we must continue to fight."

Telling punitive blows

The February 22 Appeal of the Lao Patriotic Front Central Committee pointed out: "Let the Lao patriotic forces and people heighten their vigilance in face of the extremist and warlike reactionary forces' violations and attempts to wreck the Cease-fire Agreement, sabotage peace and prevent national concord. Let the patriotic armed forces strengthen their solidarity, promote study and unceasingly train themselves to raise their political and technical standards, curb in time adverse violations of the cease-fire and defend the liberated areas and the people."

To this end, the Lao patriotic armed forces and people have in the past period resolutely fought back and duly punished US-Vientiane violations of the accord and sabotage of national concord. In only 10 days ending March 18, more than 400 enemy paid for their crimes. All the adverse inroads into the liberated areas of Xieng Khoang, Saravane, Savanakhet, Champassak, Kham Muon and Bolikhamsay provinces were beaten off. The patriotic forces captured nearly 60 firearms and many other war materials. In Xieng Khoang alone, 162 enemy troops were killed. Especially in Pac Beng (Udomsay), a US plane was downed on March 6, the first of its kind after the signing of the peace agreement.

Such brazen violations of the US and Vientiane-Bangkok reactionaries have been not only strongly stigmatized and severely punished by the Lao patriotic forces and people, but also opposed by the Vientiane and Thai troops themselves. From Feb. 2 to March 8, 35 men of the Vientiane army in Luong Nam Tha province returned to the people's side with their arms, 22 of them from Muong Mung and 8 others from Nam Nhu area. Many Thai soldiers also refused combat and claimed repatriation.

On April 2, the Lao patriotic Front Central Committee warned: "Those violating the Agreement and illegally encroaching upon the liberated areas will be surely meted out well-deserved punishment. The patriotic forces are firmly resolved to respect and strictly implement the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos, but at the same time will not let the other side violate it and reserve for themselves the right to fight in self-defense and to protect their territories."

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh's visit to Syria

AT the invitation of Abdel Halim Khaddam, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, a delegation of the RSVN PRG led by Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, NFL Central Committee member and Foreign Minister, paid a good will visit to the SAR from March 21 to 26, 1973.

During their stay, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh and her party were cordially received by President Hafezql Al Assad.

"In visiting our country," he said, "you'll have the opportunity to see the Syrian people's heartfelt sympathy and resolute support for the Vietnamese. It is our duty now as in the past to constantly stand by the Vietnamese and reserve for them a firm all-round backing... We, Syrians, greatly admire your people's staunch fighting spirit and great sense of sacrifice. This is a valuable example for the peoples battling for independence, including us, Arabs."

Madame Nguyen Thi Binh also called on Gabdall Al Ahmar, Vice-Secretary General of the National Baath Party; and Premier M.J. Bajbory, Vice-Secretary General of the Syrian Baath Party and other leaders of the same Party and mass organization. She also visited a number of cultural establishments and historical sites. Everywhere she went, she was given a hearty welcome.

The official talks between RSVN PRG Madame Binh and SAR Foreign Minister A.H. Khaddam took place in an atmosphere of sincerity and mutual understanding. They dealt with many important international issues. The two Ministers signed a joint communiqué, at the close of the RSVN PRG Foreign Minister's tour.

The joint communiqué said:

"The SVN side highly values the major achievements recorded by Syria under President H. Al Assad's leadership in the consolidation of the people's democratic foundations, strengthening of national defense potential, development of national economy and improvement of the people's living standard.

The Syrian side affirms support for the RSVN PRG February 25 Statement. Both sides resolutely demand that the US and Saigon administration strictly implement the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam. The Syrian side regards the RSVN PRG as the only genuine representative of the South Vietnamese, and voices its full support for the SVN people's legitimate effort to preserve peace and build the liberated areas."

"Both sides also express full support to the Cambodian people's just struggle for the realization of their national rights in accordance with the March 23 5-point Declaration of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, President of the National United Front of Kampuchea. Both sides welcome the signing of the Agreement on Restoring Peace and Achieving National Concord in Laos.

Both sides fully back the Palestine Arab people's struggle for national liberation and recovery of their legitimate national rights. Both sides consider the Palestine resistance movement part of the world national liberation movement. The Vietnamese side insists that the Israeli aggressors immediately and unconditionally withdraw from all the Arab countries' territories occupied by them.

Both sides also identify themselves completely with the (Bissau) Guinean, Angolese, Mozambique, Namibian, and Zimbabwe people's fight against racism, for freedom and national liberation."

"Both sides stress the significance of the RSVN PRG Foreign Minister's visit to Syria which contributes to strengthening the relations of friendly co-operation between the two governments and the two peoples," the joint communiqué concluded.

Meeting in honour of the RSVN PRG in Hamburg (West Germany)

in brief * in brief

o Expressing his joy at the great victory of the Vietnamese people as symbolized by the withdrawal of the last combat unit of the US from South Viet Nam on March 29, 1973, Reidar Larsen, President of the Communist Party of Norway declared at a reception in honour of the representative of the Republic of South Viet Nam Information Bureau in Oslo on April 2, that March 29, 1973 marked the common victory of the national and progressive forces in the world over the imperialistic forces headed by the US.

o Winding up the Week of Solidarity with the Vietnamese people observed from March 22 to 28, 1973, the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization held a press conference in Cairo and published a statement which said among other things:

"The AAPSO which represents various nations in Asia and Africa, strongly condemns the violations of the Peace Agreement by the US and the Saigon administration. The AAPSO insists that the latter end immediately their infringements and sabotage of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam, terminate at once their encroaching operations and bombardments in the PRG-controlled areas, end immediately their "pacification" raids and their terror and repression, release immediately the patriotic and peace-loving people still detained by them and ensure the normal activity of the Two-Party Joint Military Commission and the ICCS."

o On April 1st, a meeting of Christian priests and believers was held in a church in Rome (Italy) to protest Thieu's scheduled visit to Pope Paul VI, demanding the latter not to receive him on his stay in Rome on April 8 and 9. Earlier, the Italy—Viet Nam Committee, an organization comprising most of the political parties and organizations in Italy had issued a statement pointing out: "To the great majority of the Italian people who are friends of the Vietnamese people, the name Thieu is linked with the atrocities in the war in Viet Nam and the aggression of the United States, with to the violations of the Peace Agreement and the tragic fate of the political prisoners still detained in various prisons in South Viet Nam." "To the democrats in Italy," the statement continued, "the RSVN PRG is the only representative of the South Vietnamese people."

THIEU BOOED IN THE UNITED STATES

NGUYEN Van Thieu's visit to the United States stirred a strong wave of protest among the American people.

As early as the evening of March 31, protest rallies were held in Los Angeles and San Clemente. In the former, hundreds of people, chiefly youths, took the streets and chanted pro-RSVN PRG slogans.

On April 1, as Thieu's plane landed at Los Angeles airport, demonstrators waving NFL flags and carrying anti-Thieu posters shouted: "Thieu—US puppet!", "Release South Viet Nam political prisoners!"

On April 2, in San Clemente, many anti-Thieu rallies took place at a square not far from Nixon's residence and in front of the western White House.

On April 3, demonstrations continued in front of Beverly Hills Hotel. Demonstrators waved RSVN PRG flags and clamoured: "Down with Reagan!" Tom Hayden, a militant of the US progressives' movement, denounced the Thieu-headed Saigon administration as an "ugly dictatorial regime" and Thieu's visit to the United States as only an attempt to get billions of US dollars in aid for maintaining a regime without dignity.

Thieu came under fire also from Congressmen. Seven US representatives demanded that the Nixon administration end all aid to Thieu. Representative Robert Drinan flayed Thieu as a "dictator" and said: "I don't want US money to be used for shoring up that criminal." Representative Don Edwards described Thieu as "a beggar and a brigand," and his US tour as a begging trip aimed at deceiving the American people.

Meanwhile the *New York Post* exposed Thieu's serious violations of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and stressed that no matter what meaning might be given to the words "war criminal," Thieu deserved this qualification. The Thieu administration, the paper added, is the enemy of the South Vietnamese people and there is no doubt it cannot be a friend of ours. The *International Herald Tribune* wrote on April 2 that many Americans regarded Thieu as a devil that stains any hand touching him. Thieu is the leader of a tottering regime which is trying to survive in a civil war that has brought death to the heart of its capital city, his tenure of office is plagued with corruption and as a rule with atrocities.

According to Abe Bloom, of the NPAC leadership, during Thieu's stay in Washington, the American people will keep on demonstrating against him in front of the White House and in many other cities: Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, etc.

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION